

5. A process for forming images as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic film is a laminate of two or more thermoplastic polymer layers.

6. An apparatus for forming images comprising:  
an ink-jet head for recording on a recording medium;  
a laminate section for laminating a laminating film comprised of a thermoplastic film without a backing layer onto the recording medium on which recording has been conducted; and  
heating and pressurizing means for smoothing the thermoplastic film by heating and pressurizing and bonding a back side of the thermoplastic film onto an image-receiving layer of the recording medium.

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#### REMARKS

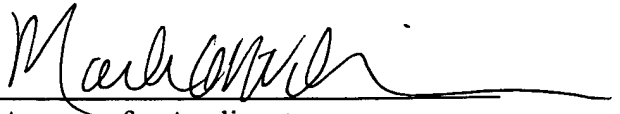
Favorable consideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-6 remain pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 6 being independent. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended herein to correct minor errors.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

2. (Twice Amended) A process for forming images as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a surface glossiness of the heating and pressurizing means is equal to or greater than 10% at an incident angle of 20°.

3. (Twice Amended) A process for forming images as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the surface glossiness is equal to or greater than 70% at an incident angle of 75°.